

REMARKS

Applicant is filing a Notice of Appeal in the above-referenced application and is concurrently filing this Amendment after Final Rejection in response to the Office Action mailed March 1, 2006 in order to place the claims in better form for appeal and to reduce the number of issues on appeal. Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment and prompt communication thereof in an Advisory Action.

Amendment to Specification

Applicant has amended the specification to remove certain reference numbers (1102, 1104) because these reference numbers do not appear in Figure 11. Applicant believes that the explanation regarding Figure 11 is clear without these reference numbers being added, particularly in view of the prior discussion at paragraph [063] with respect to Figure 9.

Amendments to Claims

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended to address the claim objection raised in the final Office Action. Claim 1 has also been amended to correct the antecedent basis of elements in the sharpening step. Claim 6 has been amended to correct the antecedent basis of "chrominance data." Claims 3, 8, 12 and 14 have been amended to correct grammatical informalities. These claim amendments are not being made as a requirement for patentability, and are merely technical and cosmetic in nature. There is no intent to narrow the scope of the claims or to affect the Doctrine of Equivalents as it might be applied to these claims were they left unamended.

Claim Objection

The Office Action, at page 2, objected to the language in claim 1 that recites "image data to be rendered," stating that it is not clear if any data is rendered or not. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment to Claim 1 addresses and overcomes the objection. Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 in order to place the claims in better condition for appeal.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite the allowance of the claims, the Examiner is invited to contact Judith C. Bares at (707) 824-2486.

Respectfully submitted,

/Judith C. Bares/

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Dated: July 26, 2006